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Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 SCS-06 CA-01 L-03 H-02
FBIE-00 NSC-05 PPTE-00 DEAE-00 MCT-01 /038 W
----------042948 301958Z /43
P 301535Z DEC 77
FM AMCONSUL MAZATLAN
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1529
AMCONSUL GUADALAJARA

UNCLAS MAZATLAN 0601

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJ: W/W HIGHWAY HARRASSMENT, U.S. CITIZEN IN SINALOA

REF: MAZATLAN'S 0488 AND 0588

1. CONGEN GUADALAJARA FORWARDED LETTER FROM GUADALAJARA RESIDENT COMMANDER BENJAMIN FRANKLIN BUCKNER IN WHICH COMMANDER REPORTED THAT ON DECEMBER 3, AT FIVE P.M. HE AND TWO FISHING COMPANIONS WERE FORCED TO STOP ON ROAD NORTHEAST OF LOS MOCHIS BY TWO UNMARKED CHEVROLET PICK-UP TRUCKS WITHOUT LICENSE PLATES. FOUR ARMED MEN, NOT IN UNIFORM, EMERGED, SEARCHED BUCKNER'S 1973 MERCEDES, INSULTED HIM WITH OBSCENITIES AND THREATENED TO CONFISCATE HIS VEHICLE. FINALLY ONE OF THE FOUR MEN OVERRULED HIS COMPANIONS AND PERMITTED BUCKNER TO RROCEED. BUCKNER'S LETTER CITES THE HARM THAT COULD BE DONE TO TOURISM SHOULD KNOWLEDGE OF THIS INCIDENT REACH PUBLICATIONS SUCH AS THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. BUCKNER'S LETTER ALSO INDICATES THAT COPIES OF HIS PROTEST AGAINST HARRASSMENT HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE PRESIDENTE, CONSEJO NACIONAL DE TURISMO: PROCURADOR GENERAL DE MEXICO: GOBERNADOR DE SINALOA: CONSULADO GENERAL DE LOS EEUU, GUADALAJARA AND TO ARQ. GUILLERMO ROSELL DE LA LAMA, SECRETARIO DE TURISMO.

2. UPON RECEIPT BUCKNER'S LETTER, CONSUL TELEPHONED FEDERAL
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DISTRICT ATTORNEY LOS MOCHIS TO REQUEST IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION AND FOLLOWED UP WITH WRITTEN REQUEST.

3. CONSUL ALSO COMMUNICATED WITH ENRIQUE FITCH, FEDERAL TOURISM DELEGATE IN SINALOA, WHO SAID HE HAD RECENT REPORTS OF TWO OTHER CASES INVOLVING AMERICANS IN SIMILAR SITUATIONS. FITCH COMMENTED THAT THERE IS SPECULATION THAT SUCH INCIDENTS BEING PERPETRATED

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BY MEXICAN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS WHO, ON ONE OCCASION,
IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES AS MFJP. FITCH INDICATED THAT GOVERNOR
IS AWARE OF PROBLEM BUT DOES NOT WISH RISK HEAD-ON CONFRONTATION
BETWEEN STATE AND FEDERAL AUTHORITIES AT THIS TIME. FITCH STATED
HE HAD ALREADY DISCUSSED OTHER SIMILAR INDICENTS WITH LIC. CARLOS
AGUILAR GARZA, CULIACAN COORDINATOR FOR AG'S OFFICE, AND THAT HE
REFUSED ADMIT POSSIBLE CULPABILITY HIS MEN. FITCH ADDED THAT HE
HAD ALREADY COMMUNICATED WITH TOURISM SECRETARIAT BUT ASKED CONSUL
TO TRY ARRANGE EMBASSY ASSIST IN BRINGING THIS MATTER BEFORE
APPROPRIATE GOM FEDERAL AUTHORITY BEFORE IT GETS OUT OF HAND.

4. CONSUL HAS WRITTEN TO BUCKNER ADVISING THAT SINALOAN AUTHORITIES
HAVE BEEN REQUESTED TO INVESTIGATE AND THAT HE WILL BE KEPT
INFORMED.
MATTHEWS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Concepts: n/a
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Retention: 0
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SAS ID: 182237
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: W/W HIGHWAY HARRASSMENT, U.S. CITIZEN IN SINALOA
TAGS: CASC, MX, (BUCKNER, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN)
To: MEXICO
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d9f45000-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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